

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are pending in the present application. In the above amendments, claims 1, 10, 18, 26, and 34 have been amended, and new claim 37 has been added. Therefore, after entry of the above amendments, claims 1-37 will be pending in this application. Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 101

Claims 18-25 are rejected under 35 USC § 101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended the above claims to overcome this rejection.

Amended independent claim 18 recites, in part, “A computer-readable medium stored with instructions executable by a subscriber unit, . . .” Because claim 18 specifically recites that a computer-readable medium is stored with instructions and the instructions are executable by a subscriber unit, it defines structural and functional interrelationships between the instructions and the subscriber unit, and thus it is statutory. In view of the foregoing amendment, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 18 and claims 19-25, which depend from claim 18, be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over ETSI TS 10091 V8.5.0 (2000-10), “Digital cellular telecommunications system (Phase 2+); Radio subsystem link control (GSM 05.08 version 8.5.0 Release 1999)” (“ETSI”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,169,759 (“Kanterakis”). Applicants have amended the above claims to overcome this rejection.

Applicants disclose a novel and efficient method of utilizing the unused processing time between the acquisition of synchronization information and the acquisition of cell identification (ID) information for a given cell. For example, Applicants disclose utilizing the time between

the acquisition of synchronization information for a first cell and the acquisition of cell ID information for the first cell in order to acquire synchronization information for a second cell, and possibly a third cell, a fourth cell, a fifth cell and so forth. By way of illustration, the time between obtaining synchronization information for a given cell and obtaining the cell ID may take up a second, while the time it takes to acquire synchronization information may be less than 50-100 msec. Applicants utilize the unused processing time efficiently by, for example, acquiring the synchronization information of a second cell (and possibly other cells) during the time between obtaining synchronization information of a first cell and obtaining the cell ID of the first cell.

This concept is delineated in the claims. Independent claim 1 recites, in part:

“acquiring synchronization information of a first cell

. . .

acquiring synchronization information of a second cell of the FDMA system after acquiring the synchronization information of the first cell and prior to acquiring the cell ID information associated with the first cell.” (emphasis added)

As admitted in the Office Action, ETSI does not disclose acquiring synchronization information of a second cell of the FDMA system prior to acquiring the cell ID information associated with the first cell. Nor does it disclose acquiring synchronization information of a second cell of the FDMA system after acquiring the synchronization information of the first cell and prior to acquiring the cell ID information associated with the first cell.

Kanterakis discloses:

“Upon successful synchronization with one or more base stations, the Remote station receives the necessary system parameters from a continuously transmitted

by all base stations broadcast control channel (BCCH).” (Kanterakis, col. 6, line 66 – col. 7, line 2).

While Kanterakis describes receiving the necessary system parameters upon successful synchronization with one or more base stations, it does not disclose or suggest how to utilize, let alone how to efficiently utilize, the time between acquiring synchronization information of a first cell and acquiring the cell ID information associated with the first cell. Furthermore, Kanterakis does not disclose or suggest acquiring synchronization information of a second cell after acquiring the synchronization information of the first cell and prior to acquiring the cell ID information associated with the first cell.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the applied references. Independent claims 10, 18, and 26 contain similar limitations, and therefore, are patentable over the applied references. Independent claim 34 is also patentable for similar reasons.

All the other claims currently under consideration in the application are dependent from the independent claims discussed above, and therefore, are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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